

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A wick trimmer comprising:
  - a first cutting arm having a base;
  - a second cutting arm pivottally connected to said first cutting arm; and, wherein said second cutting arm includes a base-measuring foot having a thickness that is greater than a thickness of said base~~mounted to said second cutting arm, wherein said measuring foot thickness~~ which determines the length of a wick which is allowed to remain ~~at above~~ the top surface of a candle upon trimming the wick, and wherein a top surface of said measuring foot includes a cutting edge; and  
a debris tray configured to receive any portion trimmed off of the wick, wherein the debris tray comprises said measuring foot, a top rim of said measuring foot, and said base.
2. (currently amended) The wick trimmer of claim 1, wherein said base-measuring foot thickness ~~has a thickness of between about 1/8" and about 7/8"~~.
3. (currently amended) The wick trimmer of claim 1, wherein said base ~~has comprises~~ a cutting edge.
4. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 1, wherein said first and second cutting arms are configured so as to create variable cutting strength along said cutting edge as said first cutting arm and said second cutting arm are directed to a closed position.

5. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 4, wherein said variable cutting strength is created by a difference in angle of between about 0.25° and about 1.25° between a bottom angle of said first cutting arm and a bottom angle of said second cutting arm.

6. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 4, wherein said variable cutting strength is created by a difference in angle of between about 0.50° and about 1.00° between a bottom angle of said first cutting arm and a bottom angle of said second cutting arm.

7. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 4, wherein said variable cutting strength is created by a difference in angle of about 0.75° between a bottom angle of said first cutting arm and a bottom angle of said second cutting arm.

8. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 7, wherein said bottom angle of said first cutting arm is about 105.75° and said bottom angle of said second cutting arm is about 105.00°.

9. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 1, wherein a top angle of said first cutting arm forms an angle of between about 100° and about 110°.

10. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 1, wherein a top angle of said second cutting arm forms an angle of between about 100° and about 110°.

11. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 1, wherein the wick trimmer comprises stainless steel.

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) A wick trimmer comprising:

    a first cutting arm coupled to a base;

    a second cutting arm coupled to a measuring foot having a thickness that is greater than a thickness of said base, wherein said measuring foot thickness determines a length of a wick allowed to remain above a top surface of a candle upon trimming the wick, wherein said second cutting arm is rotably pivotally connected to said first cutting arm;

    a base having a thickness of between about 1/8" and about 7/8", wherein said base is connected to said second cutting arm and wherein said base corresponds to the length of a wick which is to be allowed to remain at the top of a candle; and

    a debris tray configured to receive any portion trimmed off of the wick, wherein the debris tray comprises said measuring foot, a top rim of said measuring foot, and said base; and

    a cutting edge formed along said base.

17. (currently amended) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein said base measuring foot has a thickness of between about 1/8" and about 1/2".

18. (currently amended) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein said base measuring foot has a thickness of about 1/4".

19. (cancelled)

20. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 16, said first cutting arm having a top angle of between about 95.00° and about 115.00° and a bottom angle at least about 0.25° greater than the top angle.

21. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 16, said second cutting arm having a top angle and a bottom angle of between about 95.00° and about 115.00°.

22. (currently amended) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein the difference between said-a top angle and said-a bottom angle of said first cutting arm creates variable cutting strength along said cutting edge as said first cutting arm and said second cutting arm are directed to a closed position.

23. (currently amended) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein a middle portion of said first cutting arm is angled between about 170° and about 175° and a middle portion of said second cutting arm is angled between about 170° and about 175°, allowing said first cutting arm and said second cutting arm to overlap so that said first cutting arm and said second cutting arm can pivotsly connect.

24. (currently amended) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein said-a bottom angle of said first cutting arm is about 105.75° and said-a bottom angle of said second cutting arm is about 105.00°.

25. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein a first end of said first cutting arm forms an angle of between about 100° and about 110°.

26. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein a first end of said second cutting arm forms an angle of between about 100° and about 110°.

27. (cancelled)

28. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein said wick trimmer is configured so as to fit into a cover of a candle, wherein the cover is at least about 1.5 inches in diameter.

29. (currently amended) The wick trimmer of claim 16, wherein said cutting edge cuts—is configured to cut through a wick, regardless of whether the wick has been burned previous to the cut.

30. (currently amended) A wick trimmer comprising:

a first cutting arm having a base; and

a second cutting arm pivottally connected coupled to said first cutting arm, wherein said second cutting arm includes a measuring foot having a thickness that is greater than a thickness of said base, wherein said measuring foot thickness determines the length of a wick allowed to remain above a top surface of a candle upon trimming the wick, and wherein said measuring foot and said base each include a cutting edge, and wherein said first and second cutting arms are configured so as to create variable cutting strength along said cutting edges as said first cutting arm and said second cutting arm are directed to a closed position; and

a debris tray configured to receive any portion trimmed off of the wick, wherein the debris tray comprises said measuring foot, a top rim of said measuring foot, and said base.

31. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 30, wherein said variable cutting strength is created by a difference in angle of between about  $0.25^\circ$  and about  $1.25^\circ$  between a bottom angle of said first cutting arm and a bottom angle of said second cutting arm.

32. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 30, wherein said variable cutting strength is created by a difference in angle of between about  $0.35^\circ$  and about  $1.15^\circ$  between a bottom angle of said first cutting arm and a bottom angle of said second cutting arm.

33. (original) The wick trimmer of claim 30, wherein said variable cutting strength is created by a difference in angle of about 0.75 between a bottom angle of said first cutting arm and a bottom angle of said second cutting arm.

34. (currently amended) A method for trimming a wick to a pre-determined length comprising the steps of:

providing a first cutting arm having a base;

providing a second cutting arm pivottally connected to said first cutting arm, wherein said second cutting arm includes a measuring foot having a thickness that is greater than a thickness of said base, wherein said measuring foot thickness determines the length of a wick allowed to remain above a top surface of a candle upon trimming the wick; and

placing a wick of a candle between the base and the measuring foot;

placing a bottom surface of the measuring foot on the top surface of the candle;

moving said first and second cutting arms to a closed position;

cutting the wick to a height that corresponds to the measuring foot thickness such that the cut wick stands underneath a bottom surface of the base when the bottom surface of the measuring foot is contacting the top surface of the candle; and

receiving at a debris tray any portion cut from the wick, wherein the debris tray comprises said measuring foot, a top rim of said measuring foot, and said base ~~providing a base mounted to said second cutting arm which determines the length of a wick which is allowed to remain at the top of a candle.~~

35. (original) The method of claim 34, further comprising the step of providing variable cutting strength that is created by a difference in angle of between about 0.25° and about 1.25° between a bottom angle of said first cutting arm and a bottom angle of said second cutting arm.